

Proposed Resolution  
By Niziolek

**Responding to Air Pollution Alerts by the City of Minneapolis and its staff.**

Whereas, the Minneapolis City Council's goal is to ensure healthy ambient air quality in Minneapolis and surrounding areas; and

Whereas, air quality is deteriorating due to increasing levels of ground level ozone, fine particles, air toxics and other air pollutants; and

Whereas, federal air quality thresholds for ground level ozone and other pollutants are being approached; and

Whereas, costly regulatory requirements will be mandated if federal thresholds are exceeded and the area is deemed "non-attainment" with the ground level ozone standard; and

Whereas, the cost associated with federal "non-attainment" is estimated at \$270 million dollars annually (in 1998 dollars); and

Whereas, non-attainment may adversely affect development and business opportunities in Minneapolis; and

Whereas, Ground Level Ozone is a lung irritant that can increase the likelihood of adverse respiratory symptoms and breathing discomfort in active children, adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, but may also affect healthy people at times; and

Whereas, sources of pollutants that contribute to ground level ozone, fine particles and other pollutants include automobiles, trucks, power plants, painting, solvents, cleaning chemicals, small engines, printing presses and gasoline service stations, among other many other sources; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis City Council supports the City of Minneapolis' involvement in Clean Air Minnesota, a collaborative effort of business, environmental, and government organizations to achieve significant, measurable reductions in air pollutants and to improve air quality, primarily through voluntary measures; and

Whereas, the City of Minneapolis' recognizes the joint efforts of Clean Air Minnesota's steering committee members, which include:

- Minnesota Environmental Initiative
- Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, Co-Chair
- Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy, Co-Chair

- 3M
- American Lung Association of Minnesota
- Andersen Corporation
- Barr Engineering
- Bush Foundation
- City of Minneapolis
- Flint Hills Resources
- Ford Motor Company
- Hennepin County
- Izaak Walton League of America – Midwest Office
- Metropolitan Council
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Minnesota Environmental Initiative
- Minnesota Office of Environmental Assistance
- Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
- Minnesota Power
- Target Corporation
- US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 5
- U of M, MN Technical Assistance Program
- Rock Tenn
- Xcel Energy;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by City Council of the City of Minneapolis:

The City of Minneapolis does hereby encourage and support the following actions to be taken by City of Minneapolis, its staff, citizens and business', in response to air pollution alert days.

1. alert staff and citizens of Ambient Air Quality Alerts via email and internet;
2. perform lawn care and maintenance that minimizes air pollution and postpone using/idling gas powered lawn equipment. Instead, perform duties such as planting, watering, weeding, maintaining/repairing equipment, and proceed with the use of electric/battery generated equipment; postpone fueling city fleet vehicles, automobiles, trucks, and other gas/diesel fired engines;
3. plan trips to avoid single occupancy driving, instead use the bus, carpool, walk or delay travel;
4. shut off engines and minimize unnecessary idling of all city fleet, automobiles, trucks and gas/diesel fired engines;
5. conserve energy by shutting off computer monitors when away for more than 1/2 hour;
6. conserve energy by turning off unoccupied and unnecessary lights or energy sources;
7. postpone painting and using solvents by proceeding with projects that do not involve the use of VOC containing materials.